

REMARKS

Prior Art Rejections

Independent claim 1

Claims 1-3 were rejected as being anticipated by Tsukihashi (U.S. Patent No. 6,584,053). We submit that Tsukihashi does not disclose a restart circuit that switches the laser beam from the read level to the write level before the restart circuit restarts the data writing, as recited in independent claim 1. Tsukihashi is directed to a disk recording system that interrupts data recording due to a buffer underrun and restarts data recording. When Tsukihashi's recording start position detecting means 19 detects the leading end of the non-recorded region, his system clock generating circuit 21 switches an operation clock from a reproducing clock to a reference clock. When the reference clock is generated, the recording control means 18 causes the encoder 11 to output data. During this time, since synchronization has been established between the data to be outputted from the encoder 11 and the data already recorded on the disk, new data is continuously recorded to the recorded data. In other words, Tsukihashi only discloses switching the operation clock from the reproducing clock to the reference clock before restarting the data writing. The reference clock is used for synchronization of data recording operation and the reproducing clock is used for synchronization of data reproducing operation. However, switching from the reproducing clock to the reference clock does not change the level of a laser beam. Thus, Tsukihashi does not disclose switching the laser beam from the read level to the write level before the restart circuit restarts the data writing, as is required by independent claim 1.

We submit that because claims 2 and 3 depend from claim 1, these dependent claims are patentable for at least the same reasons that independent claim 1 is patentable.

Independent claim 4

Claims 4-7 were rejected as being anticipated by Tsukihashi. We submit that Tsukihashi does not disclose a restart circuit that generates an instruction for restarting the writing of data

before the data read from the recording medium by the synchronizing circuit reaches the interruption location, as recited in independent claim 4, as amended. As discussed above, Tsukihashi discloses preparing the record restarting by changing an operation clock from a reproducing clock to a reference clock. However, Tsukihashi says nothing about restarting the writing of data before the data read from the recording medium by the synchronizing circuit reaches the interruption location.

We submit that because claims 5-7 depend from claim 4, these dependent claims are patentable for at least the same reasons that independent claim 4 is patentable.

Independent claim 8

Claims 8-10 were rejected as being anticipated by Tsukihashi. We submit that Tsukihashi does not disclose a restart circuit for restarting data writing based on the address stored in the address memory, wherein the power source is activated prior to the time when the writing of data is restarted, as recited in independent claim 8. As discussed above, Tsukihashi discloses preparing the record restarting by changing an operation clock from a reproducing clock to a reference clock. But, Tsukihashi says nothing about activating the power source prior to the time when the writing of data is restarted.

We submit that because claims 9-10 depend from claim 8, these dependent claims are patentable for at least the same reasons that independent claim 8 is patentable.

Independent claim 11

We submit that Tsukihashi does not disclose a method for controlling interruption and restarting of writing data to a recording medium comprising shifting the laser beam from the read level to the write level before writing is restarted, as recited in independent claim 11. As discussed above in conjunction with independent claim 1, Tsukihashi discloses preparing the record restarting by changing an operation clock from a reproducing clock to a reference clock. However, Tsukihashi says nothing about shifting the laser beam from the read level to the write level before writing is restarted.

Independent claim 12

We submit that Tsukihashi does not disclose a method for controlling interruption and restarting of writing data to a recording medium comprising generating an instruction for restarting data writing based on the stored address, wherein the writing is restarted before the location of the data read from the recording medium in the reading step reaches the interruption location, as recited in independent claim 12, as amended. As discussed above in conjunction with independent claim 4, Tsukihashi discloses preparing the record restarting by changing an operation clock from a reproducing clock to a reference clock. However, Tsukihashi says nothing about restarting the writing of data before the location of the data read from the recording medium in the reading step reaches the interruption location.

Independent claim 13

We submit that Tsukihashi does not disclose a method for controlling interruption and restarting of writing data to a recording medium comprising activating a power source for generating power of the laser beam prior to the restart of the writing of data, as recited in independent claim 13, as amended. As discussed above in conjunction with independent claim 8, Tsukihashi discloses preparing the record restarting by changing an operation clock from a reproducing clock to a reference clock. However, Tsukihashi says nothing about activating a power source for generating power of the laser beam prior to the restart of the writing of data.

For the reasons discussed above we submit that claims 1-13 are patentable over the Tsukihashi patent.

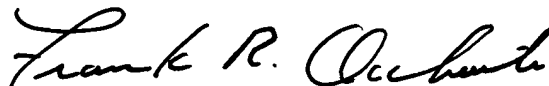
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Enclosed is a Petition for One Month Extension of Time and a check for \$110.00 for the required fee. Please apply any other charges, not covered, or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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